



EMBASSY OF JAPAN

19 October 2016

MEDIA RELEASE

Members of the press are welcome by prior registration to attend the Handover Ceremony which will take place at the Hillside Primary School in Katutura, Samora Machel Constituency, Khomas Region, Namibia at 09:00 on 21 October 2016.

HANDOVER OF A NEW SCHOOL BUILDING FUNDED BY THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT TO THE HILLSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL IN KATUTURA, SAMORA MACHEL CONSTITUENCY , KHOMAS REGION

On the 21st of October 2016, a ceremony handing over a new school building which is funded by the Government of Japan through its Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects (GGP) Programme will be held at the Hillside Primary School in Katutura, Samora Machel Constituency, Khomas region. **H.E Mr. Hideyuki Sakamoto, Ambassador of Japan to Namibia, will officiate the event and handover the facility to Ms. Sanet Steenkamp, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture.**

Hillside Primary School was established in 2007. It currently accommodates about 1,135 learners from Pre-Primary to Grade 7 with 34 teachers. The school is located in one of the disadvantaged informal settlements in Windhoek called Greenwell Matongo where population is rapidly growing; hence lack of space in schools is a big challenge. The Government of Japan extended grant assistance amounting to NAD 1,040,310.00. The grant was utilised to build a new school building consisting of four permanent classrooms, one store room, a parking bay as well as a roof structure for assembly gatherings area. Japan's assistance made it possible for the school to provide a conducive educational environment for learners.

Education and economic empowerment are some of the priority areas for the Government of Japan in its extension of GGP assistance to Namibia. The programme aims at bringing about direct and immediate impact on the well-being of disadvantaged communities at a grass-roots level by supporting relatively small development projects in areas of local needs such as education, agriculture, health, to be implemented by Non-Profit Organisations and local authorities. The Government of Japan introduced the GGP programme in 1989, and in Namibia, the programme has been implemented since 1997. To date, 44 projects has been supported in Namibia, totally amounting to approximately NAD 28 million.

Members of the press who wish to attend this event are requested to register by the 20th of October 2016 at 17:00 pm.

For further information and registration, contact Ms Kaoru Yokotani, First Secretary of the Embassy of Japan in Namibia. Email: kaoru.yokotani@mofa.go.jp, Tel: 061-426-700/ FAX: 061-426-749.

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